A ready way to prevent Bribery, *and to make good the Prince of* Orange's *Declaration, humbly preſented to the Honorable* Convention. *By a Lover of his Country.*

THE Uſe of the *Balloting-Box* being a ſure way to prevent *Bribery*, and to make every Man give his Vote according to the beſt of his Judgment, becauſe he can get nothing by doing otherwiſe, no Man can ſell his Vote, when it cannot be known how he gives it.

That this is neceſſary to be conſidered at this time; do but remember what hath been the conſtant practice here in *England* of our Court, City, Country, Weſtminſter-Hall, and Parliament Houſe.

We will here only ſet down in a few Lines ſomewhat of the practick Part (for it is uſed in ſome Caſes with more nicety than in others) in great Councils of State; we will mention the moſt facil here.

The Electors being aſſembled in ſome convenient place, as a great Hall, *&c.* the Doors are ſhut up, and the prime Officers who aſſemble or call together the Electors, keep the Keys till the Election be over.

The chief Officer choſen for that purpoſe, takes the Ballot-Box, and opens it in the view of all the Company, to ſee that it is empty, and without ſecret conveyances; then placeth it on the Table for that purpoſe at one end of the Room, and calls ſuch of the Company as ſet next one by one, and gives to each a Ball in the ſight of the People, a little Ball made of fine Linnen, as at *Venice* *; he puts it into the Box, either the Affirmative or Negative, and ſo departs to one ſide from the reſt; and then he calls the next, and does the like to him; and ſo of the reſt, till all are called: All who have Voted ſtand on one ſide the Room apart by themſelves till the Voting is over.

* *In ſome places they uſe Beans.*

The Box is ſomewhat long, and hath a Partition in the middle, the which hath two Holes to drop the Ball in, which are Taper-wiſe, broader at the top and narrow at the bottom, the Right-hand Hole is for the † Affirmative, and the Left for the Negative.

† *They may alſo be diſtinguiſh'd by the Colours* Black *and* White.

And becauſe that no man ſhall know on which ſide a Man puts his Ball, (who is giving his Vote) there is a place roundiſh made in the Box, to put in the Hand and Arm almoſt half way to the Elbow, ſo as the Hand being in, the Party may let his Ball drop as he pleaſeth.

When all have done Balloting, the Box is opened, and what is in the Affirmative noted down.

Then the next Competitor is Balloted for as the former, and ſo of the reſt; and he who hath moſt Votes in the Affirmative is elected.

All very eaſily performed, as in *Eaſt-India* and other Companies and Societies, both here and ſome other Governments, in a ſhort time, without Noiſe, without Tumult, without Animoſities; and the moſt deſerving is always endeavoured to be elected.

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